Expansion of Bank Branches in Orissa during the Eighth Five Year Plan

2028. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for expansion of bank branches during the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the number of new branches of different nationalised commercial banks proposed to be set up in Orissa during the above period; and

(c) what are the details of the branches proposed to be opened at different places in Orissa during the financial year 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c) The current Branch-Licensing Policy (1985-90) co-terminus with Seventh Five Year Plan is coming to an end on 31-3-1990. The guidelines for the new Branch Licensing Policy are being finalised by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Modernisation of Steel Plants

2029. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the plant-wise additional investment made to bridge the technology gap by modernising the public sector steel plants during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) the plant-wise average cost of steel production during the above period;

(c) the plant-wise time schedule for completing the modernisation schemes; and

(d) by what amount and percentage the cost of steel production is likely to go up or come down during the Eighth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) The estimated investment on modernisation of steel plants of Steel Authority of India Ltd. during the 7th Five Year Plan (1985-90) is as under:

	(Rs. in crores
Durgapur Steel Plant .	555.70
Rourkela Steel Plant . .	155.12
Bokaro Steel Plant . .	5.00
Indian Iron & Steel Co. (Burnpur) . . .	151.72

(b) Cost of production is classified information.

(c) The time schedule for completion of the modernisation schemes is as under:

Durgapur .	By March, 1993
Rourkela .	By April, 1995

—The time schedule for modernisation of Bokaro and IISCO (Burnpur) Steel Plants will depend on sanctions of these projects, which are presently under consideration.

(d) Only the Durgapur Steel Plant Project is likely to be completed during the VIIIth Plan period. The operating cost of production (excluding interest and depreciation) here is expected to reduce by 44 per cent (at IIIrd Quarter, 1988 prices).

Visit of a High Level US Business delegaion to India

2030. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a high level U.S. business delegation recently negotiated with the Indian Govern-

ment for establishing joint ventures for automotive equipment, steel plates and small industrial magnets; and

(b) if so, what is the outcome of the negotiation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Trade union Leaders' Meeting with Finance Minister

2031. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether at a meeting of Trade Union leaders with him on February 7, 1990 held at New Delhi, it was pointed out that the Sick Industrial Companies Act, 1985, had failed to prevent sickness of industries and on the other hand proivded incentives to industries going sick; and

(b) if so, what modifications are contemplated to check this trend?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b) It is a usual practice with the Finance Minister to hold Pre-Budget Meetings with various agencies where a number of suggestions are made. One such meeting was taken by the Finance Minister also with Trade Union Leaders on 7th of February, 1990. In this meeting various suggestions were made.

The problems of sick units and measures for their rehabilitation are kept under review by RBI & Govt. on an on-going basis.

चाय के उत्पादन में कमी

2032. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :**
सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा :

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 1988 के वर्ष के दौरान हुए चाय के उत्पादन की तुलना में वर्ष 1989 के दौरान इसका उत्पादन लगभग 11 मिलियन कि० ग्रा० कम होने का अनुमान है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि देश में चाय की वार्षिक खपत में लगभग 3.5 प्रतिशत की दर से वृद्धि हो रही;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि पिछले वर्ष के दौरान घरेलू बाजार में चाय के मूल्यों में भारी वृद्धि हुई थी ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो यह वृद्धि कितने प्रतिशत की थी; और

(ङ) क्या सरकार ने चाय के मूल्यों में पुनः कमी लाने तथा इसका उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए कोई कारगर योजना बनाई है, और यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

वाणिज्य और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री अरुण कुमार नेहरू) : (क) और (ख) चाय बोर्ड द्वारा प्रस्तुत किए गए आंकड़ों के अनुसार वर्ष 1989 के दौरान भारत में चाय का उत्पादन वर्ष 1988 के दौरान हुए उत्पादन की तुलना में लगभग 17 मिलियन किग्रा० कम होने का अनुमान है । पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान भारत में चाय की आन्तरिक खपत से पता लगता है कि खपत में प्रतिवर्ष लगभग 16 मिलियन किग्रा० वृद्धि हुई है । घरेलू खपत का अनुमानित स्तर वर्ष 1988 के दौरान 462 मिलियन किग्रा० की तुलना में वर्ष 1989 के दौरान 478 मिलियन किग्रा० था।